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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 544

By Henry

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mr. Jack W. Kuhn, Sr. of Nashville.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness and a profound sense of loss that the members of this General Assembly and the citizens of Tennessee learned of the passing of Mr. Jack Kuhn, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kuhn was an outstanding citizen who performed his duties with extraordinary dedication and unprecedented devotion, giving unselfishly of himself, his time and his talents for the greater good of his family, his profession, and the greater Nashville community; and

WHEREAS, Jack Kuhn was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kuhn was a highly respected member of the greater Nashville community; and

WHEREAS, the son of the late Caroline Weil and Gus D. Kuhn, Sr., Jack Kuhn attended Nashville public schools and graduated from the University of Virginia in 1940; and

WHEREAS, he answered Uncle Sam's patriotic call to duty in June 1941, during World War II, courageously serving in the U.S. Army Signal Corps until December 1945, and achieving the rank of first lieutenant; and

WHEREAS, a gifted and respected leader with astute business sense, Mr. Kuhn climbed the proverbial corporate ladder of success, and was named President of Kuhn's – Big K in 1965; and

WHEREAS, Jack Kuhn was elected Chairman of the Board of Directors of Kuhn's – Big K in May 1977 and served with acumen and alacrity as the company's Chief Executive until his retirement; in this important post he earned the admiration of the entire company for the superior quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, under his capable leadership, the Nashville-based chain of discount retail stores successfully merged its 104 stores with the Wal-Mart chain in 1981; the company had begun in 1913 as a variety store before moving into the department store field in 1962; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kuhn was an active and devout member of the Congregation Micah, a Reform Jewish temple which he helped to found and served faithfully for many years; he also rendered astute service as President of The Temple from 1974 – 1976 and as a life member of its board of directors; and

WHEREAS, a civic-minded individual whose benevolent nature knew no bounds, Mr. Kuhn was the quintessential "pillar of the community"; and

WHEREAS, despite his busy schedule, Jack Kuhn donated his countless talents to several praiseworthy organizations, including the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce, which he served peerlessly as a member of the Board of Governors for two terms; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kuhn was an exemplary and dedicated community leader who also served as a director emeritus of Third National Bank, now SunTrust; his unparalleled financial acumen distinguished him as a voice of integrity in the greater Middle Tennessee area; and

WHEREAS, a refined and cultivated gentleman, Jack Kuhn was a staunch advocate for the cultural arts in this state's capital as a member of the Nashville Symphony Association; and

WHEREAS, Jack Kuhn, Sr. was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jack Kuhn enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Heloise Isacson Werthan Kuhn and was the proud parent of Carol Silver of Andover, Massachusetts; Joni Werthan of Franklin, Patricia Uhlmann and Jack Kuhn, Jr. of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; Jeffrey W. Kuhn of Nashville and Walter H. Kuhn of Newton, Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, he took great delight in being the grandfather of six grandchildren: Josh, Jacob and Zachary Kuhn; Kate and Meg Uhlmann; and Karen Silver; and

WHEREAS, his first wife, Lois Hainsfurther Kuhn, preceded him in death; and

WHEREAS, Jack Kuhn, Sr. leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, friends and colleagues affectionately remember Mr. Kuhn as an individual who gave unselfishly of himself for the betterment of society; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Mr. Jack Kuhn, Sr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our deepest sympathy and offer our sincere condolences to the family of Mr. Kuhn

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.